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Cover: Chinese women working in machine shop
Credit: LBS (See story on page 9)

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IF YOU ARE MISSING A PAGE OR GET A BADLY PRINTED GRAPHIC, LET US KNOW AND WE'LL SEND YOU ANOTHER ONE

"WE CAN'T JUST TALK ABOUT ONE PERSON"
13 BLACKS ROUNDED UP, CHARGED WITH HARASSMENT
TO ROBBERY

JAMAICA, NY (LNS) -- Queens isn't the section of New York City that first pops to mind when you think about the big city. But even though it has none of the sights you see on post cards, it the most populous of New York's five boroughs.

White people who live there are usually those who have scraped together what they could to escape the inner city. And the growing number of black people are those who were often pushed out of the inner city by urban renewal (or urban removal). There is often a lot of racial tension.

Queens is divided up into little communities with picturesque names like Cambria Heights, B. Elmhurst, Sunnyside, and S. Ozone Park. But the names don't really tell you what Queens is like. They don't give you an idea about the decaying one or two family houses in many of the neighborhoods. Law enforcement officials say that Queens has "the highest rate of delinquency in the city" and so there is constant harassment.

The two things which have gotten Queens national attention in the last year or so have been white residents' efforts to block construction of a low-income housing project and the TV show "All in the Family." While on TV the racial tensions are good for a laugh, in real life the repercussions are more devastating.

Ronald Plummer is a 23-year-old black man from Queens. On November 15, 1971 he was picked up and accused of stealing \$265 from the cash register and the pocketbook of a saleswoman in a Queens department store on September 3. He was charged with first and second degree robbery and grand larceny. He was also charged with tampering with a witness and harassment because the same woman who charged him with the robbery said he came back to taunt her. Bail was set at \$35,000.

Ron had just finished high school -- he had gone back after dropping out -- and worked tutoring kids at a community center. He had just found a job as a teacher's aide at a local junior high school, and in fact had been paid the day he was supposed to have robbed the store.

Ron's friends and family who went to his court appearances noticed that Eileen Murray, the white woman who charged Ron with the crime (and the only witness) went right from the courtroom in which his trial was held to one next door. Curious, they followed her and discovered that there was another black man on trial for tampering with a witness and harassment.

After quite a bit of investigation they discovered that Eileen Murray had accused 12 other people. Two 15-year-olds were charged with the same robbery as Ron and the rest were accused of harassment and tampering with a witness.

All of these accused were black and in many cases had just come to the courthouse accompanying friends when suddenly they were fingered by the ever-vigilant Eileen Murray. One was arrested at a

bus stop, another was arrested crossing the street. "She just picked black people at random," said one woman involved in the case.

A typical example is Tommy Johnson, a 36 year-old man with two children. He and his nephew had come to the courthouse to drive home a friend of theirs who was in court because he had purchased a stolen car. Eileen Murray pointed out Johnson and his nephew General Dexter as people who were harassing her and they were arrested. Johnson, who had his kidneys removed, has to have kidney dialysis treatment twice a week. For him, going to jail could well have meant death.

Of the 13 people charged by Eileen Murray, eight have had their cases dismissed for lack of evidence. One of the eight was in Riker's Island prison at the time he was supposed to have harassed Murray. One man, Duane Roberts, was convicted of tampering with a witness and harassment and sentenced to one year in jail. His case is on appeal.

After Ron Plummer was arrested, a few black and white Queens residents started working in his defense (Ron lived with a white family for a while and the community center where he worked was staffed by both blacks and whites). Some of the other people arrested because of Murray's accusations had trouble finding help so they went to the Black Liberation Party, a militant black organization in Queens. Soon the Black Liberation Party joined the Defense Committee and they all started trying to track down the other people charged by Eileen Murray.

At Ron's trial, only Eileen Murray testified against him. The defense put three witnesses on the stand testifying both to his whereabouts at the time of the incident and his character.

Murray changed her story several times, first saying he held her at knife point, then saying one of the other young men did. She also changed her description of his clothing. But the all-white jury convicted Ron on all counts.

He was sentenced on June 8. Over fifty people showed up to demonstrate in his behalf. Spectators were searched in the courtroom, and led in one by one through a metal detector. There were at least 15 police or guards in the courtroom.

"We were treated as if we were highly dangerous people even though we were highly orderly people," said a white middle-aged woman involved in the committee. Then Ronald was sentenced to 12 years.

While the Queens Defense Committee first got together around Ronald's case, they are continuing their work as the other cases come up. "We can't talk about one person," said one of the white people involved in the committee. This case is political in terms of the way black people are treated in the courts.

"In the past," said one member of the Black Liberation Party, "a lot of black people in Queens didn't think the struggle involved them. Now there's a lot of heavy drugs and many of the people have no jobs. People can no longer go inside their houses and hide. And whites are seeing that this can soon happen to them too."

The Queens 13 need your support. Send anything you can spare to the Queens Defense Committee, c/o Black Liberation Party, 126-18 Inwood St., S. Ozone Park, N.Y.

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YOU HAVE TO SPEND MONEY TO MAKE IT;
NIXON'S FUNDRAISERS LIVE IT UP -- AND RAKE IT IN

WASHINGTON (LNS) -- Nixon's campaign fundraisers have really been turning on the charm and sparing no cash in the scramble for campaign backers, reports Jack Anderson in a recent syndicated column. Traveling first class, staying at the most fashionable hotels, wining and dining prospective backers at the most elegant restaurants and smoking the finest cigars, Nixon's men racked up an April-May expense account not to be believed. Air travel alone for the two months in commercial, private or government planes came to over \$45,000

In New York, they stayed at the Waldorf-Astoria (three visits cost them \$2985) and in Florida it was the Boca Raton Club, a "watering hole for millionaires." But the cheapest place so far to entertain potential backers has proven to be the White House. For an April 18 reception at the presidential palace, the Republican Finance Committee reimbursed the White House guest fund a full \$159.

All in all Nixon's fundraisers have been quite successful. They managed to collect over \$10 million from unidentified contributors before a new law went into effect on April 7 requiring that all political donors be named

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"I DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR"

OATH NO LONGER REQUIREMENT FOR PASSPORT

WASHINGTON, D C (LNS) -- "I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the U.S. against all enemies foreign and domestic, that I will bear true allegiance to the same and I take this obligation freely without any mental reservations or purpose of evasion, so help me God."

If you are about to get a passport, you'll be glad to know that the oath, pledging allegiance to the US is no longer mandatory.

The oath was ruled an unauthorized law and unconstitutional by Federal Judge Thomas A. Flannery.

Although it has been optional since 1966 the ACLU filed a suit against the use of it on the grounds that most persons did not realize that it was optional nor were they told it was when applying for a passport

Just last November, Secretary of State Rogers made the oath mandatory and directed the Passport Office to refuse to issue passports to anyone who would not swear allegiance to the Constitution.

Since then, a number of people have been denied passports after refusing to take the oath. In January of this year, the ACLU took the case to court again on behalf of five persons, two of whom had sought and been denied passports for declining to swear allegiance.

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SEE YOU IN MIAMI BEACH -- REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

GOLFERS ENCOUNTER UNEXPECTED HAZZARD:
U S OPEN CLOSED TO DEMONSTRATING VETS

MONTREY, Cal (LNS) -- The U.S. Open, one of the "highlights" of the U.S. professional golf circuit, was livened up last week as five Vietnam Veterans Against the War chained themselves to a tree of the 18th fairway of the exclusive Pebble Beach golf course. The Vets took the action on Sunday June 18 in protest against Nixon's increasing escalation of the War in Vietnam

After chaining themselves to the tree, the Vets unfurled a banner which said, "Stop the Bombing." Police soon arrived on the scene, the veterans were arrested, and their banner was torn down. The Vets were charged with trespassing, resisting arrest and interference. Bail was set at \$1800, but the Vets refused bail.

The selection of such an unusual target for a demonstration was explained by the Vets: "We wanted to remove the 'sacredness' of sports in America and show that life in America cannot proceed as normal until we are totally out of Asia." During their press conference the Vets stated: "As we have seen in other periods of history, a people's silence can be construed as giving consent to the continuance of genocidal and ecocidal government policies. As veterans, our conscience will not allow us to remain silent."

And yet, for most viewers of the Open, business did go on as usual as ABC TV cameras deliberately skittered around the Vets. However, the action did make headlines in the West Coast papers.

The U S Open is one of the top money tournaments, giving out close to a quarter of a million in prizes. Jack Nicklaus, many times a millionaire as a result of income from golf prizes, a line of golf equipment, men's clothing, and a golf club, said in response to the Vets presence, "I was more worried about my second shot." For him it was worth it to worry -- he was the tourney winner and picked up a \$30,000 pot.

The Vets directed a part of their statement to the fans of the Open, "To those of you who are disturbed that your pleasure was temporarily interrupted, simply understand that some can commit moral atrocity on the one hand, and laugh over golf on the other; some can live in the presence of moral atrocity and blind themselves to it; but there are some who can do neither. If you are enjoying today and plan on enjoying the summer, we remind you that 50,000 young Americans and over a million Indochinese men, women and children are spending today and this summer in a casket "

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"We have crushed a deceived and confiding people; we have turned against the weak and friendless who trusted us; we have invited our clean young men to shoulder a musket and do bandits' work..."

Mark Twain, on the invasion of the Philippines, 1901

"The master class has always declared the war; the subject class has always fought the battles."

Eugene V. Debs, 1918

G.I. COFFEEHOUSE RAIDED BY JAPANESE POLICE

IWAKUNI, Japan (LNS) -- The Hobbitt Coffee-house, a small, two-room establishment in Iwakuni, Japan was opened by Beheiren, the Japanese Peace in Vietnam Committee in February. The coffeehouse provided a place for Iwakuni citizens and anti-war American G.I.s (Iwakuni is the home of a 4500 man and woman Marine Corps Air Station) to meet together outside of the exploitative relationship that grows up between military personnel and citizens of a base town.

On June 4th the Hobbitt was invaded and destroyed in a sudden attack by 25 Japanese police. The coffeehouse was surrounded and the police entered and searched the Japanese and American workers, even going through personal diaries. The police eventually left with no confiscations.

Police claimed their search was in connection with the arrest of an activist in Hiroshima (an hour by train from Iwakuni) on the same day for purportedly giving a U S military M-1 rifle to the Japanese Red Army (Sekigun). The police allege that this gun was used in training for the Tel Aviv airport incident.

Newspapers reported that this Hiroshima activist had gotten the rifle through his contacts with the G.I. movement in Iwakuni, and since many anti-war G.I.s go to the Hobbitt, this was supposed to be his contact point. The rifle in question has yet to be produced, and there is no evidence that there is any relationship between the Hiroshima activist and the Hobbitt. In fact, the Hobbitt was opened three months after the rifle was supposed to have been stolen and turned over to the Red Army.

More important, perhaps, from the police viewpoint was the fact that the Hobbitt has become a valuable gathering place for movement activists. The police have jumped at the chance to crack down on political groups, using popular outrage at the role of Japanese attacking the Tel Aviv Airport as a justification for breaking into more than 50 movement offices and homes. The Hobbitt was a natural target.

There has been a steady succession of anti-war actions by the people who gather at the coffeehouse; Japanese people have flown kites at the end of the airfield runway to stop planes from landing and taking off, they have demonstrated in the town, and staged sit-down protests in front of the main gate of Iwakuni Base. G.I.s at the base publish the Semper Fi newspaper, make broadcasts to the brothers and sisters inside the base, and are active in their opposition to the war and the military.

Beheiren and the Hobbitt have filed complaints with the Hiroshima court that gave the police the search warrant for the Hobbitt. The effects of this campaign to vindicate the Hobbitt and charge the police will be important for the future of the Japanese and GI movements in Japan.

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"The policeman isn't there to create disorder
He's there to preserve disorder."

Mayor Richard J. Daley, 1968

WOMEN AND CHILDREN FORM RING AROUND CONGRESS TO PROTEST WAR

WASHINGTON (LNS) -- Twenty-five hundred women and children from all across the country braved torrential rains and floods to demonstrate against the war in Washington, D.C., Thursday, June 22. Ring Around the Congress, as the demonstration was called, was planned by Joan Baez, Women Strike for Peace and several other women's groups to coincide with Congress' last week in session.

It was "one last week to say no," said Cora Weiss, one of the action's organizers.

The women and children made two closely linked demands: one, that Congress start the flow of funds so urgently needed at home for housing, welfare, education and the myriad other programs shortchanged by massive Department of Defense spending in Vietnam.

The demonstration -- tactics and participants -- was unique in several ways. The group was all women and children, many involved in their first peace march, who came long distances, for instance from Oregon, Arizona, and Michigan, on a short two weeks notice, to protest Nixon's escalation. And 2500 was only a partial tally of those who would have attended had the weather not been so treacherous. Seven hundred demonstrators were stranded in New York's Penn Station due to the incredible rains as were eight bus loads of women and children in Philadelphia.

Demonstrators massed together on Thursday morning at St. Marks church and set off on their march to the Capitol in early afternoon. Day care for 50-100 children under five was provided by a team of Vietnam Veterans Against the War and nuns from St. Marks.

Once the marchers reached the Capitol grounds they formed a single line and literally made a circle round the huge white building. After that feat -- which took quite awhile -- the women and children met on the Capitol steps and were addressed by several senators and congressmen and their wives including Fred and LeDonna Harris of Oklahoma. The demonstrators then began a move towards the Rotunda but Capitol police blocked the way, declaring that only tourists were allowed inside. The Rotunda is traditionally open to everyone.

Fred Harris asked police how they could tell the difference between tourists and demonstrators but the captain replied assuredly that he could. However the demonstrators were soon inside -- seated smack dab in the middle of the Rotunda. Kids finger-painted, Joan Baez sang, and many women stood spontaneously to address the group.

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***** LESBIAN MOTHERS CHALLENGE COURT

SAN FRANCISCO (LNS) -- The Lesbian Mothers' Union has announced its involvement in a test suit to challenge the unwritten judicial policy which virtually forbids lesbians to retain custody of their children in divorce proceedings.

Although there is no law which specifically says lesbians cannot retain custody, courts often take the position that the fact a mother is a lesbian is proof that she is unfit. For further info, write Lesbian Mothers Union, 330 Ellis St., San Francisco, Ca 94102

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NIXON CALLS FOR HOUSING BUDGET CUTS;
URBAN RENEWAL PROVIDES HOMES AND PROFITS.
BUT NOT FOR THE POOR

NEW YORK (LNS)--"Millions upon millions of Americans face the stark reality of a degrading and seemingly hopeless living environment." The speaker was hardly a known dissident. He was Senator John Sparkman (D., Ala.), speaking at recent hearings held by the Senate Subcommittee on Housing and Urban Affairs. Sparkman, chairman of the subcommittee and considered a conservative on most issues, pointed out that 11 million housing units in the U.S. are either sub-standard or overcrowded. This represents 15% of all the living units in the country.

The issue of housing has become a prime concern on capitol hill lately because of President Nixon's proposed budget for fiscal year 1972-73 which cuts by 25% (from \$200 million to \$150 million) the amount of federal money to be spent for the construction of apartments for low and middle income families.

At the same time Nixon has requested a budget allotment of \$83.4 billion for defense, up \$6.3 billion from last fiscal year (which may actually go up following Nixon's arms agreement with the Soviet Union).

Furthermore, housing advocates note that besides drastically cutting finances for the building of new units, Nixon has also asked that Congress not raise last year's appropriations for other housing programs. This is in effect cutting funds since inflationary trends have increased all costs and means less mileage for the dollar.

The urgent need for more and better housing was voiced in 1968 by the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Act which called for 26 million new housing units by 1978, and asked that 6 million units for low and moderate income families be started "immediately."

But before the HUD Act of 1968 could be enacted Nixon took office. And he has made his position "perfectly clear."

To reach HUD's proposed goal of 26 million new units by 1978, 2.6 million new units per year would have to be built. In 1969 the Nixon-controlled program constructed only 1.4 million new units, again 1.4 million in 1970, and 2 million in 1971. This total figure of 4.8 million in three years is considerably below the 7.8 million figure HUD set as the goal for that period, and significantly below the 6 million deemed needed "immediately" in 1968.

Besides the blatant "cuts" and "freezes" issued by Nixon on housing funds there have also been reports of under-the-table activities that have either misdirected or eliminated funds headed for housing programs.

A recent Senate Subcommittee on Separation of Powers revealed that Nixon had impounded \$12 billion dollars that was intended for domestic programs, \$3 billion of which was to be used to help move low and moderate income families into decent housing.

Senator Sparkman stressed the urgency of these

funds when he noted that it was children in this income group that comprised the over 400,000 incidents of lead poisoning in 1971. (Lead poisoning results when kids eat chips of lead-based paint that have peeled or chipped off walls.)

The San Francisco Housing Authority and Redevelopment Authority has filed suit in federal court in an attempt to force the Nixon administration to produce the funds that have disappeared.

The manner in which funds that have been appropriated for housing are being used, has also come under fire. Charges have been made that claim builders are using shoddy materials when building federally-funded housing projects. In this way the builders can cut their costs and thus increase profits.

James Doherty, a staff member of the House Banking and Currency Committee who recently headed a housing study stated that "the real estate boys are making a real killing on the program; in the cities they are just unloading all of their junk onto federally assisted housing." In short, they are building instant ghettos.

Such reports have lead many legislators to suggest not giving subsidies to the builders and contractors but directly to the people living in the inadequate housing. This it is reasoned, would make the builders more responsive to the people.

In both ways, through budget cuts or as victims of corrupt contractors, it is the people trapped in the over-crowded, run-down living situations that lose.

Who are the winners? Well, Milton Semer, former general counsel of the Department of Urban Affairs feels that George Romney, director of HUD, and other officials are "too close" to the owners of the building industry for the government programs to function satisfactorily. "Let's face it," he said, "too many of the (Nixon administration's) friends are feeding on the federal housing programs right now."

This pattern didn't begin with the Nixon administration, although it may have been exaggerated. The Senate Select Committee on Housing and Nutrition has noted that most government funds have gone into "urban renewal (which more often than not has meant replacing low cost housing with high rent town-houses and office buildings [and] highway construction."

As the recent report states in summing up (and as many inner-city dwellers have known for some time), "the federal government has proved to be more efficient at destroying low and moderate income housing than in providing it."

--30-- (SEE GRAPHICS)

"The strike is the weapon of the oppressed, of men capable of appreciating justice and having the courage to resist wrong and contend for principle. The nation had for its cornerstone a strike, and while arrogant injustice throws down the gauntlet and challenges the right to conflict, strikes will come..."

--Eugene V. Debs

ASBESTOS WORKERS VICTIMS OF WORK-RELATED
LUNG AILMENTS:
PLAN PROTEST IN MEMORY OF LEADER FELLED BY DISEASE:

NEW YORK(LNS) -- The 20,000 members of the international Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers are planning a day-long black armband demonstration in July in memory of Albert E. Hutchinson, president of their union who died recently.

"He died from the same disease he worked so hard to keep his own men from getting," said James Novak, business manager of the union's New York local. Hutchinson died of lung cancer, a frequent cause of death among asbestos workers.

One out of every five asbestos insulation workers dies of lung cancer - about eight times the rate in the general population. If an asbestos worker also happens to smoke cigarettes he or she is 95 times more likely to die of lung cancer than those people who neither smoke nor work with asbestos. And these statistics apply only to asbestos insulation workers whose level of exposure is considered comparatively light among asbestos workers in general.

The hazards of industrial exposure to asbestos were known at least as far back as 1900 when an English physician established a definite connection between the presence of microscopic asbestos fibers in the lungs and a disease which afflicts asbestos workers - a disease known today as asbestosis.

Asbestosis is a form of pneumoconiosis - a disabling and often fatal scarring of the lungs whose symptoms are similar to the Black Lung disease common among so many coal miners. It is estimated that 4 or 5 out of every 10 asbestos workers - there are 100,000 in this country - are afflicted with asbestosis or other asbestos-related lung diseases.

The incidence of this disease among asbestos workers increases with exposure. According to Dr. Irving Selikoff of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, 10% of asbestos insulation workers with less than 10 years exposure show evidence of asbestosis, while for those workers with 20 or more years of exposure the figure is more like 85%'

Mesothelioma is another disease which strikes down many asbestos workers. One in every ten asbestos workers die from this otherwise exceedingly rare cancer of the chest lining. It takes from 20 to 40 years to develop and almost never occurs without some, even if slight, exposure to asbestos. In the population at large mesothelioma is present in only one out of 10,000 deaths.

The planned demonstration in memory of Hutchinson will also be aimed at the new federal regulations covering asbestos dust levels in factories and other work places. These regulations immediately limit dust levels to 5 fibers per milliliter of air (about a thimblefull) and generously give employers four years to bring this level down to 2 fibers per milliliter.

Union officials and workers would like to see the level reduced to 2 fibers per milliliter in-

mediately and to zero eventually

For many workers the Federal regulations come years too late. Once asbestos gets into the lungs there is nothing the body can do to neutralize it. Consequently a single exposure to asbestos dust is enough to cause asbestosis or mesothelioma.

Hutchinson was not the first Asbestos Workers union leader to die of lung cancer. Hugh Mulligan, who preceded Hutchinson as union president, also died of asbestos-induced lung cancer and Andrew Haas, who is expected to be the next president, must take little comfort in learning that he too, like thousands of other asbestos workers, is afflicted with asbestosis.

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GM HIRES GOVERNMENT INFORMER

DETROIT(LNS) -- Have you ever wondered how government informers and secret witnesses make it after their covers have been blown? Well, aside from reaping in cash, cars, and other prizes direct from government coffers, they are also given lush corporate careers in out-of-the-way places

For example, at the request of the Justice Department, General Motors generously handed over an \$18,000-a-year job outside the country to Pershing Gervais, a former New Orleans policeman and government informer in the indictment of Jim Garrison. Garrison, you may remember, was the New Orleans district attorney who made too many waves in his investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy - which he claimed was a conspiracy.

After the indictment, Gervais conveniently disappeared. He surfaced recently on Canadian television and asserted that the Justice Department pressed him to cooperate in their case against Garrison and then lined up the GM job in Vancouver, British Columbia to get him out of New Orleans.

According to the Wall Street Journal, the GM hiring disclosure has brought to light a "fairly widespread practice of some big American multinational corporations finding jobs for U.S. government informers in out-of-the-way corners of their operations here and abroad."

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JAY GOULD'S MODEST WANTS

My wants are few; I scorn to be

A querulous refiner;

I only want America

And a mortgage deed of China;

And if a kind fate threw Europe in,

And Africa and Asia ,

And a few island of the sea,

I'd ask no other treasure

Give me but these--they are enough

To suit my notion--

And I'll give up to other men

All land beneath the ocean.

--an anonymous litt

Gould, 19th century capitalist who made millions of dollars from several railroad and steamship companies.

From: Slocum Hollow Collective, P.O. Box 1315,
Scranton, Pa. 18501

The Slocum Hollow, published by the Slocum Hollow Collective, is now operating and expects to have its next issue out June 16 and to be published every four weeks thereon. We welcome exchange subscriptions with any newspaper interested. Please send us your newspaper as soon as possible and we'll send you ours.

* * *

From: Independent Eye, P.O. Box 19085, Cincinnati,
O. 45219.

The Independent Eye has resumed publishing. We would like to exchange with any and all papers. Please note our new address above.

* * *

From: Pensacola Cooperative News Project, P.O.
Box 1583, Pensacola, Fla. 32502.

Remove Pensacola Fishcheer and Grit City News from your mailing lists.

* * *

From: Media News Syndicate, 213 Indian Lane,
Media, Pa. 19063.

The Media News Syndicate will provide direct, daily, coverage of the Democratic Convention, demonstrations and all, for small newspapers, and radio stations. The cost will be only a few dollars a day and reports will start before the convention opens and continue until it closes. Please contact us immediately if we can help your publication get this story.

If your organization will be involved in demonstrations, please contact us so we can interview you in Miami. Please put us on your mailing list for releases on any activities planned for Miami.

MNS hopes to help many publications that couldn't get credentials and still want low cost (almost free) coverage.

* * *

From: University Review, 2929 Broadway, N.Y., N.Y.
10025 (212) 866-4604.

The University Review Collective has published a twenty-four page, pocket-sized pamphlet on Vietnam. It is written in a non-rhetorical, question and answer format and is designed specifically for non-movement readers. The pamphlet can be used in schools, labor unions, church groups, and other organizations. Sample copies will be sent free: bulk orders are \$5 for one hundred, \$40 for one thousand. Write or call us.

* * *

From: RPM Print Coop, 1355 Williamson St., Madison,
Wis. 53703 (608) 257-3059.

The RPM Print Coop in Madison, Wisconsin, is looking for a printer, preferably one who has had some experience in a movement shop. We're in the midst of restructuring the shop, need some committed

soul with a lot of energy. Finances are in bad shape, but if you need it, a subsistence wage is available. Write or call us.

* * *

From: Solidarity Films, 2490 Channing Way, Rm 207,
Berkeley, Calif. 94704 (415) 843-7888.

We are compiling a list of films dealing with labor struggles, issues, problems, etc. Please send us titles of films you may know of as well as anything you know about the film (content, time, distributor, rental fee, etc.). We are also interested in acquiring labor films. If you know of any such films being made or recently made, please contact us about distribution possibilities.

* * *

From: O B People's Rag, P.O. Box 7750, Ocean Beach,
Calif 92107 (714) 222-3435.

The Rag would like to exchange with other papers. Contact us. Also anyone who knows where we can get a headliner and/or Selectric typewriter cheap in Southern California area please get in touch with us.

* * *

From: Seer's Catalogue, 4207 San Isidro NW,
Albuquerque, N.M. 87107.

Seer's Catalogue needs help. Since December a very few people in Albuquerque have been putting the paper together. We are monthly for the summer, but in fall, we will come out every two weeks. We could tell you the usual sad tale of beginning political papers, like no money, etc., but you've heard it. If perhaps you'd be interested in working on the paper and in coming to beautiful New Mexico, then why not write and we'll send you the paper so you can see what you think of it.

* * *

From: Puerto Rican Socialist Party, 106 East
14th Street, New York City 10003

The internationally known Grupo Taone will make a tour of the Greater New York and New England areas next month. The group, made up of Puerto Rico's top political singers, will be joined by Frank Ferrer and his band, Puerto Rico 2010 and Miguelito Puventud, a well known Puerto Rican singer.

The Taone Group is made up of a group of young Puerto Rican singers who are dedicated to disseminate the Puerto Rican culture, through records and personal appearances.

The July 1 kick-off performance is scheduled for the Bronx's Teatro Puerto Rico, at 138th St. between Willis and Brooke Avenues. Performances at 3PM and 8PM.

From then on, all the performers will make stops in Puerto Rican communities in New York, Connecticut, and New Jersey. Tickets can be obtained at Casa Puerto Rico at the address above. Phone # 475-9128.

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****SEE GRAPHICS FOR PICS TO GO WITH THIS STORY****

(Note to editors: The following article is the second of the series we are hoping to write about Puerto Rico, its history, its people, and their struggle for independence. Later articles will deal more specifically with the current situation in Puerto Rico, but we feel some background is valuable to a better understanding. See last packet for the first article and other graphics to go with the stories.)

"IF THE WORLD HAS TO TREMBLE, LET IT TREMBLE:" HISTORY OF THE PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT

(Editor's note: During the last few years, the Puerto Rican independence movement has grown larger and stronger than at any time before. Even publications like the New York Times Sunday magazine have run articles envisioning an independent Socialist Republic of Puerto Rico sometimes in the not too distant future. The development of such a movement in the nearest and most direct colony of the United States is a very important political event. But it didn't begin just a few years ago. Agitation for independence for Puerto Rico and resistance to first the Spanish and then northamerican colonial control has been going on for many years. That's what this article is about.)

"....Because we have to confront the enemy without fear, And if the world has to tremble, then let it tremble. I have always said that if the United States takes Puerto Rico to the brink of statehood....it would be better that we crumble into the sea."

Lolita Lebron, March 1972
from the Federal Penitentiary
in Alderson, Virginia.

NEW YORK (INS) --It is 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon of March first, 1954. Four Puerto Rican Nationalists (one woman and three men) are wandering around inside the U.S. Congress building in Washington. They try to get into the Senate chambers but the visitors' gallery is full. Across the hall, the House of Representatives' gallery is still open. The four walk in, nervous and impatient to carry out their plans.

The Organization of American States (OAS) is preparing to hold its tenth Interamerican Conference later that month, with one of the major points under discussion to be the status and future of colonies in the Western Hemisphere, Puerto Rico included.

On March first, ironically enough, the House of Representatives is discussing a bill about the Mexican migrant workers in the United States.

At exactly 2:42, Lolita Lebron, leader of the Puerto Rican Nationalist expedition, pulls out a Puerto Rican flag in the gallery and a .45 pistol. Not able to handle the gun well she wraps the flag around her arm, shouts "Viva Puerto Rico Libre!" and starts shooting. The three men take up the cry and follow her actions. Five representatives are wounded. Nobody is killed. Lolita, Rafael Cancel Miranda, and Andres Figueroa Cordero are arrested. Irving Flores escapes during the confusion but is later caught at a bus stop.

In Lolita's prison, the authorities find the following note: "Before God and the world, my blood cries for the independence of Puerto Rico. My life I give for the freedom of my country. This is a cry for victory in our struggle for independence which for more than half a century has tried to conquer the land that belongs to Puerto Rico..."

The "gang," as the press reports it, is accused of a terrorist act and denounced by the governor of Puerto Rico, the once progressive Luis Munoz Marin turned opportunist in his later years. What the press doesn't report is that the incident was the culmination of more than 50 years of an arduous and bloody struggle both inside and outside of Puerto Rico by nationalists, whose most immediate goal was to achieve independence for the island.

The background of the struggle goes back to the first days of 1493, when the island was discovered by Columbus on his second voyage to the hemisphere. It goes back to the natives' struggle for survival and eventual extermination by the strange invaders, to the importation of African slaves and their revolts during Spanish colonization, and more recently to 1868, when peasants and slaves first took up the cry for independence that had for so long shaken the rest of Latin America and won it freedom from Spain.

On September 23, 1868, while a thousand armed men were prevented from leaving the Dominican Republic to liberate Puerto Rico, 700 peasants, slaves, and small farmers took over the town of Lares in the northwestern part of Puerto Rico and set up a provisional government. El Grito de Lares (the shout of Lares) as the event is called, was the first major attempt at liberation from Spain in the Caribbean. One of its first decrees was the abolition of slavery. (Later, on October 10 of that year Cuba followed with the Grito de Yara).

After much struggle, Spain granted Puerto Rico a fair degree of independence but was forced by the United States to 'cede' the island to them in 1898 after the Spanish-American war.

From then until 1930 the independence movement grew slowly, but was hampered by moves on the part of the United States. Several laws were passed imposing total control of the island by the United States, culminating with the Jones Act that in 1917 made all Puerto Ricans U.S. citizens (although they cannot vote) and made them eligible for the draft (just as World War I was breaking out).

In 1930 the Nationalist movement took a new turn. Don Pedro Albizu Campos, fresh out of Harvard and the U.S. Army was named president of the eight-year-old Nationalist Party.

The Nationalist Party had worked out a platform of non-cooperation with the empire, which meant that they declared war against compulsory military service and every other law imposed on Puerto Ricans by the United States. The Nationalists generally avoided participation in the electoral process, but they launched a last, well-

coordinated campaign of repression.

In 1936, Albizu Campos and seven comrades were arrested and accused of conspiracy to overthrow the U.S. government in Puerto Rico. The orders from Washington, signed by Franklin D. Roosevelt, were, "Eliminate the patriots and don't ask me for any more instructions." General Winship was then ruler of the island.

A year after the arrest of Albizu, the Nationalist Party organized a demonstration to protest the sentence imposed on him for March 21, 1937. The march was to go through the streets of Ponce, a city on the southern coast of the island, winding up at the cathedral. Half an hour before the demonstration was due to start, government troops tried to no avail to intimidate the hundreds of people who had gathered. When the moment came for the march to start, the officers gave orders to open fire on the crowd. Twenty-two people were killed and more than 200 wounded. Nobody would ever forget the Ponce Massacre.

Nationalism continued without Albizu Campos, who was imprisoned in the U.S., and without the seven other leaders. And the government continued its spree of persecution.

Albizu was finally let out in 1947 and immediately went back to Puerto Rico. During his time in jail, among many bribes, he had been offered all the money he needed if he would go back to Puerto Rico and organize a political party that would work with the U.S. government. When he refused, they realized they had a serious problem on their hands.

In 1947, the government took action by passing Law #53, which Puerto Ricans refer to as the "gag law." The law would give five to ten years in prison to anybody who even talked about the independence issue.

The struggle continued nevertheless: students rioted in the university and Albizu went around the island talking to and recruiting people for the time soon to come. By that time, a man who had gained recognition by espousing a populist line, Luis Munoz Marin, had risen to power as leader of the Popular Party, and developed a program of co-operation with U.S. interests.

In 1950, although not yet ready for a major confrontation, the people were at a peak of excitement and expectation as plans for a major uprising in 1952 were being laid.

They didn't have to wait that long, however. In Ponce, on October 30, 1950, an attempt was made to arrest the leader of the Nationalist Party in the area. When comrades went to help him, the government forces opened fire on the people. The news of what had happened spread rapidly and people started to rise all over the island. Townspeople took over the city and fought to the end to keep it liberated. Four thousand National Guard troops were called into the city, and, using all of the equipment they had to quell the rebellion, finally succeeded in putting it down a few days later.

On November first, two men decided that the situation in Puerto Rico, until that moment blacked

out of the news, had to be brought into an international spectrum. Oscar Collazo and Griselio Torresola went to Washington where they attacked the residence of President Truman. Torresola was killed and Oscar Collazo imprisoned.

The next day government forces on the island, using machine guns, bazookas and tear gas, attacked the residence of Albizu and arrested him. He was accused of 12 violations of the gag law and condemned to 79 years in prison, 53 of those for declaring himself against the colonial status of Puerto Rico.

More than two thousand arrests followed the Revolution, and of those, 32 people were sentenced to life imprisonment, among them a woman who had been arrested for sheltering her own family. Most of them have been let out by now. Carlos Feliciano, now on trial in New York for another conspiracy case was one of the sentenced people.

The attack on Congress three years later led Munoz Marin to declare that he would "intensify the stamping out, by all legal means of this lunacy." The "lunacy" was by no means unjustified; and Munoz Marin did not see fit to confine himself to "legal means."

Don Pedro, who had been released because of his health in 1953, was imprisoned after the attack on the Congress only to be let out again in 1965, just before his death as a result of years of exposure to fatal levels of X-ray treatment.

Lolita Lebron and her three companeros are still in prison, together with the survivor of the Truman attack, Oscar Collazo. The five have been offered their liberty time and time again if only they would speak out in favor of the U.S. and its policies. They have refused to do so and insist that either they will all get out or none will.

In the words of Lolita, in her recent statement from jail: "If I had to do it again, under the same circumstances, I would do it... independence for Puerto Rico has to be gained by whatever means necessary."

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"There is no such thing in America as an independent press, unless it is in the small towns. You know it and I know it. There is not one of you who dares to write his honest opinions, and if you did you know beforehand that they would never appear in print. The business of the New York journalist is to destroy the truth, to lie outright, to pervert, to vilify, to fawn at the feet of Mammon, and to sell his race and his country for his daily bread.

"You know this and I know it, and what folly is this to be toasting an 'Independent Press.' We are the tools and vassals of rich men behind the scenes. We are the jumping-jacks; they pull the strings and we dance. Our talents, our possibilities and our lives are all the property of other men."

--John Swinton, chief editorial writer of the New York Times from 1860-70, addressing a banquet of journalists.

FROM CHINA TO CALIFORNIA AND BACK:
A LOOK AT TOISHAN COUNTY TODAY

By Brett de Bary and Victor Nee
Pacific News Service/LIBERATION News Service

(Editor's Note: Brett de Bary and Victor Nee are on a three month tour of the People's Republic of China, and are the first American journalists since 1949 to visit Toishan county-- an area from which a large majority of all Chinese-Americans originally came.)

TOISHAN COUNTY, China(LNS)-- On the last leg of the journey from Canton to Toishan as the ferry drifted across mud-colored water we noticed a village dominated by a church-like tower. Then flat lush delta had become drier land which swelled up constantly in round hills, and suddenly we were passing villages unlike those we had seen in the river plain or in any other place we had been in China.

We saw villages with buildings three stories high, their walls rising into balconies, cupolas, and elaborate curves. The patterns of stone and stucco facades were almost exactly like those of the ornate Family Association buildings which line San Francisco's Grant Avenue in Chinatown.

The similarities are hardly coincidental. Perhaps seventy-five percent of all Chinese-Americans can trace their origins back to Toishan county. Either they, their parents, or grandparents made the overland trek to the southern port city of Canton (from which most Chinese embarked for the U.S.).

Even today, the old people in San Francisco's Chinatown have powerful memories of the desperate days that drove them from Toishan county--of famine, eviction, death. A bleak landscape.

But for us, the comparison was difficult. Our initial impression was one of relative prosperity. The dirt road we drove on, lined with straight rows of poplar trees, was well graded, well kept-up and thronged with bicycles. Men wore simple white shirts with dark trousers; women wore bright colored blouses of aqua, pink, or polka-dots.

Since it was a Sunday, most of the people were coming from the market. Stacks of straw mats, bunches of bananas, bitter melons, and baby pigs-- their tufts of black hair bristling through tubular bamboo baskets--swung from the handle-bars of their bicycles.

As we reached old Toishan city, the county seat, we were struck by a unique, almost Mediterranean, flavor of the balconies and arcades which lined the city streets (and somewhat puzzled by the fact that many of the buildings seemed discolored and in need of paint). Within a few hours, we met 71-year-old Tong Wei, a man who emigrated to America in 1922.

"You can't understand the past just by looking at Toishan today," Tong Wei told us. "Too many things have changed

"When I was growing up here, all the stores in the arcades had signs in English. You can't find

one today. When I was young, there were police all over Toishan. You won't see many of those now either. When I was young, and you probably find this hard to imagine today, there was a high wall around the whole city of Toishan to keep out bandits. The bandits came in anyway, they came by the hundreds, because they were men with no land to farm and nothing to eat. Today, that wall has disappeared from the city, too."

Why did Tong and others leave Toishan? "For most people, it was a problem of not having enough land to survive. If you were a rich landlord, there was no difficulty. But the average peasant held, I think, about a half a mou (1/12th of an acre) of land. Especially when droughts came, the only hope for survival was to try to flee Toishan."

Tong told us his grandfather, a peasant, was the first in the family to emigrate to America. The grandfather had had to sell his oldest son and daughter to pay his ship's passage, had then built railroads for ten years, and came back with only \$300 in his pocket.

"When my father saw that, he decided there was no sense in going to America himself. He told us it was all a matter of fate. 'Your grandfather's destiny was bad. Even going to America, he was unable to escape it.' But in a few years, my father had nothing to eat. In the end, he went to California and worked on the railroad, too."

Tong Wei, himself, worked as a laundryman for thirty years in New York and Massachusetts. A self-educated and articulate man, he joined the Marxist Hand Laundry Alliance in the 1940's and returned to China in 1951. He told us that Toishan had not changed overnight after the revolution. "In many ways, materially, we are far behind a country like the United States."

He said that great efforts still had to be made in order to increase the agricultural and industrial output of the country. "But the main thing is that people have changed," said Tong. As basic questions of food and employment were solved for the masses of people, crime has gone down, policemen and the high wall around Toishan were no longer needed.

"Before, people felt that everything was 'for the family', you know. They were after every penny." Tong tried to put his finger on the change in feeling. "After Liberation (in 1949), all of us had to learn a new way of thinking. We had to realize that if everything was 'for the family,' China would get nowhere. We had to learn to live for the whole society. It wasn't easy at first -- most of us have been in study groups discussing ideas about what society should be like for twenty years now. But people are learning. If you go out to the fields right now and ask a farmer why he's working, he'll tell you he's farming for the revolution."

Although Toishan had been almost completely lacking in industry before 1949, between 1958 and the present 179 different types of factories have

been built. Since the factories we saw had clearly been built from scratch, with great effort and ingenuity, they, too, bore out old Tong Wei's observation, "The important thing is that people have changed."

We were somewhat shocked, though, by our first factory visit in Toishan. We were introduced to a number of workers of the Toishan Number One Farm Machinery Manufacturing Plant. "We can make electric pumps, lathes, and ball-bearings here, as well as all kinds of farm machinery," Comrade Liang told us proudly.

But we were taken aback when we walked into the first building of the factory. It was a high-ceilinged, earthen-floored room, so dimly lit we could hardly make out what people were doing. "The workers here are performing the first steps in making cast iron farm machinery by indigenous methods," said Liang.

Somehow in this dark room the words "indigenous method," usually suggestive of resourcefulness and ingenuity, seemed depressing. Liang went on to explain that agricultural machinery had been desperately needed in Toishan after Liberation. It had been expensive to purchase such machinery from other cities and the supply for the whole nation had been very short.

So in 1958 the factory was built to fill the county's needs for farm machinery. In answer to an urgent need for threshers and electric generators in the rural villages, they had devised a way to cast molten iron in plain sand. We watched this process as we walked up and down the earthen floors of this building. Heated at high temperatures, Liang explained, sand becomes hard and strong like brick, and can be used to hold molten iron.

Our mood changed as soon as we stepped into the next building, which was brightly lit and buzzing with the sound of sophisticated machinery. This was the room where the finishing touches were put on the cast-iron machine bodies, and also where ball-bearings, presses, and other machine parts were made. We watched several people at work on advanced lathing machines which had been made right here in the factory.

In China, where even matches had to be imported before Liberation, and in Toishan, which twenty years ago had been a purely agricultural society, threshers and generators, presses and lathes, water-pumps and milling machines, are being produced from scratch.

As we walked along the aisles of this factory, we thought of the old Toishan men in San Francisco and their bitter memories. What would they think, we wondered, of Toishan today. Leaning down, we read, in slightly chipped red paint on one of the larger lathing machines, this inscription:

"We the Chinese people have the spirit to fight the enemy to the last drop of our blood. We have transformed old into new by our own efforts. We have taken our place in the family of nations of the whole world."

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"A CREATIVE METHOD OF UNIFYING OURSELVES": MIAMI CONVENTIONS COALITION CALLS FOR EXPOSE '72

MIAMI (LNS) -- "Not only will we take to the streets in protest of the government's repressive policies," says the Miami Conventions Coalition, "but we will attempt to create a setting through which people can share their experiences about the nature of the world in which we live, and about the positive alternatives which we have begun to create."

Toward this end, the Miami Conventions Coalition wants to create, during both Conventions, a "humanized People's World's Fair -- EXPOSE '72."

"We envision EXPOSE as a time of education, skill sharing, and generation of energy. We will seek to educate and unite ourselves around a call for major changes in foreign and domestic policies."

The emphasis around the Democratic Convention will be the war in Indochina and the problems of re-ordering the domestic priorities of this country. The exhibits will include illustrations of the Vietnamese struggle and culture during the last 2,000 years. Major education will focus on the Seven Point Peace Plan of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam, weapons used in the war, the air war and corporate involvement in it.

The main focus of EXPOSE will be the Republican Convention. The plans are to have extensive displays of the Nixon doctrine, with movies, guerrilla theatre, etc. There will be exhibits on current liberation struggles around the world -- in Northern Ireland, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Angola and other countries.

There will also be workshops and exhibits on the women's movement, alternatives to the current society (such as media co-ops, people's law and medicine) and other aspects of the movement.

"We view EXPOSE as an important aspect of convention organizing, mobilizing and long term education. We feel it will represent a creative method of unifying ourselves, and presenting the movement for social change to the country and the world. We hope to see not only booths and displays but also numerous workshops, slide shows, films, musical activities and theatre."

The EXPOSE committee is inviting interested individuals or groups who will be present at the conventions to contact them ahead of time, send ideas, and let them know how they can contribute to the project.

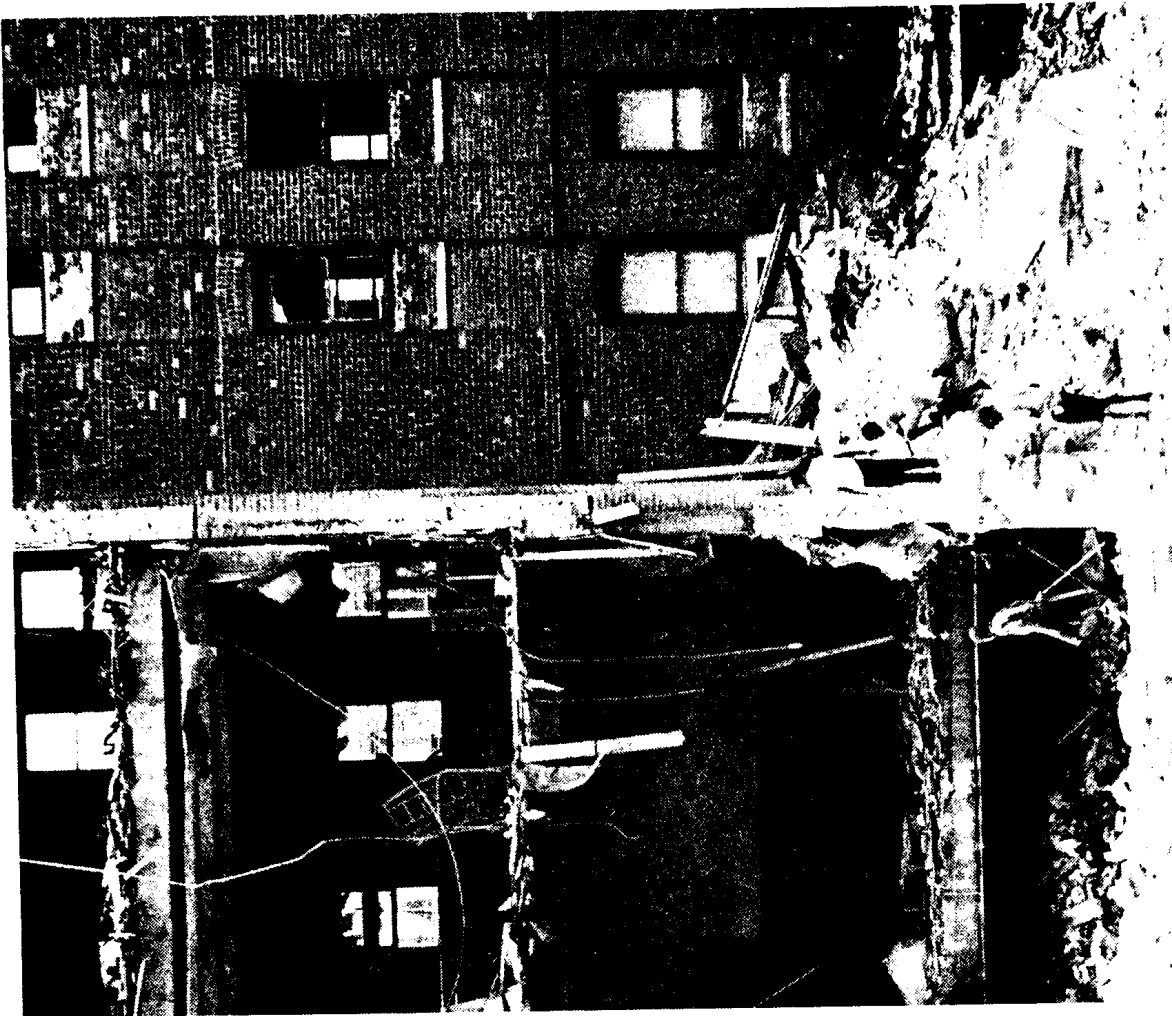
Because this means a lot of work ahead, they want to hear as soon as possible from interested people. They can be contacted by writing:

EXPOSE Committee
Miami Conventions Coalition
1718 Alton Road
Miami Beach, Florida 33139

Their telephone number is (305)-634-6010.

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WIND NIXON DOWN -- MIAMI, AUGUST 20-24



TOP
Demolition for urban renewal in Newark, New Jersey
Credit - INS
SEE STORY OF HOUSING PAGE 4

TOP
Subsidized housing in South Jamaica, Queens, New York
Credit - INS
This photo can be used with Housing story page 4 or Queens story page 1



TOP:

Puerto Rican women who took part in the Revolution of 1950
are being interrogated at gunpoint by policewomen.

SEE STORY IN THIS PACKET

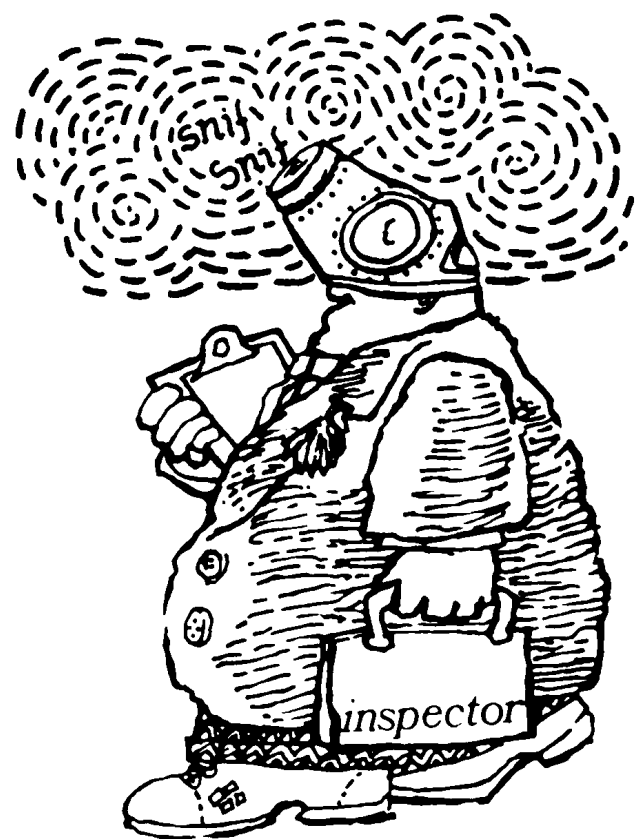
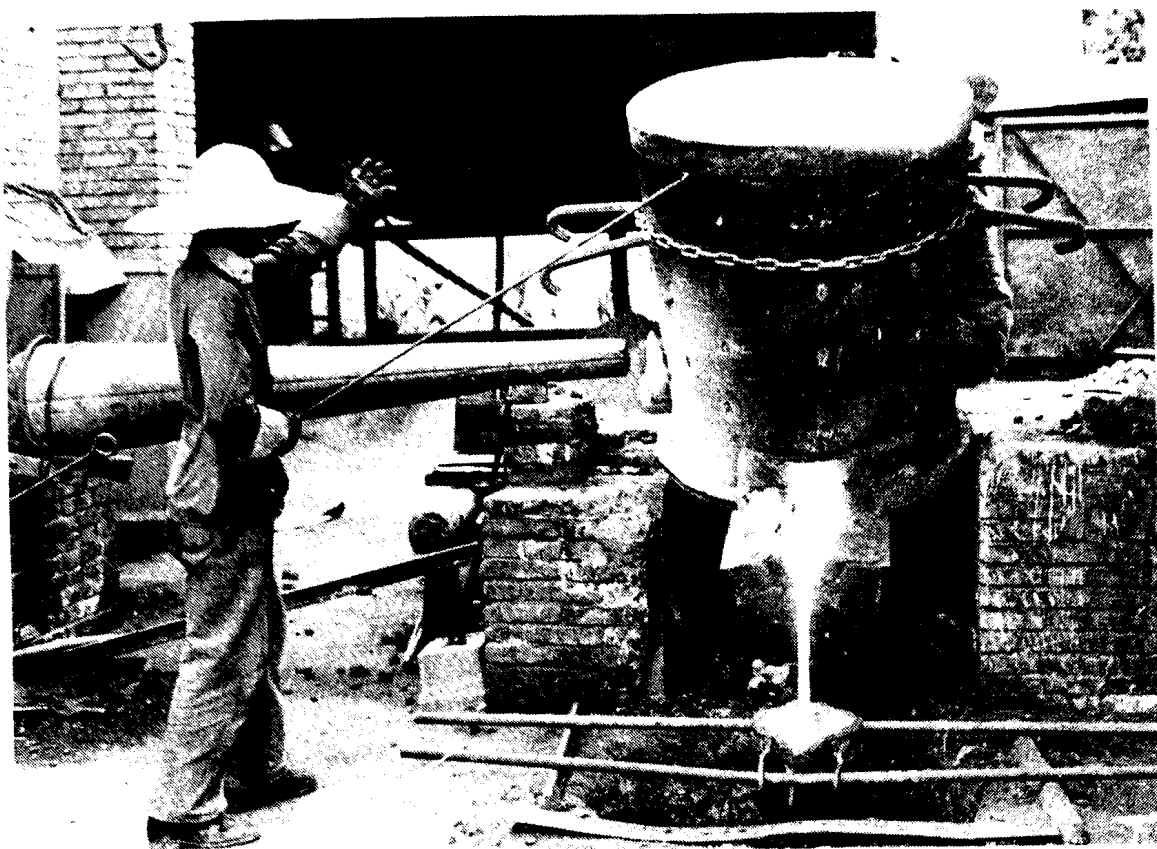
CREDIT: LNS

BOTTOM:

Rebels who were captured by the National Guard in Jayuya, Puerto Rico
after the battle, October 30, 1950.

SEE STORY IN THIS PACKET

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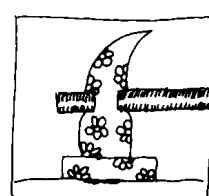
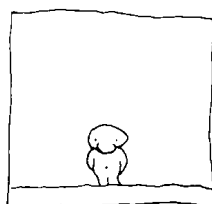
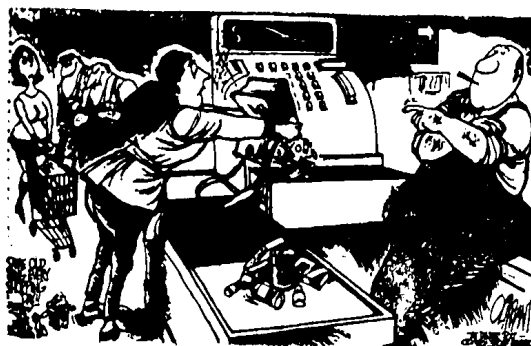


Violations What Violations?

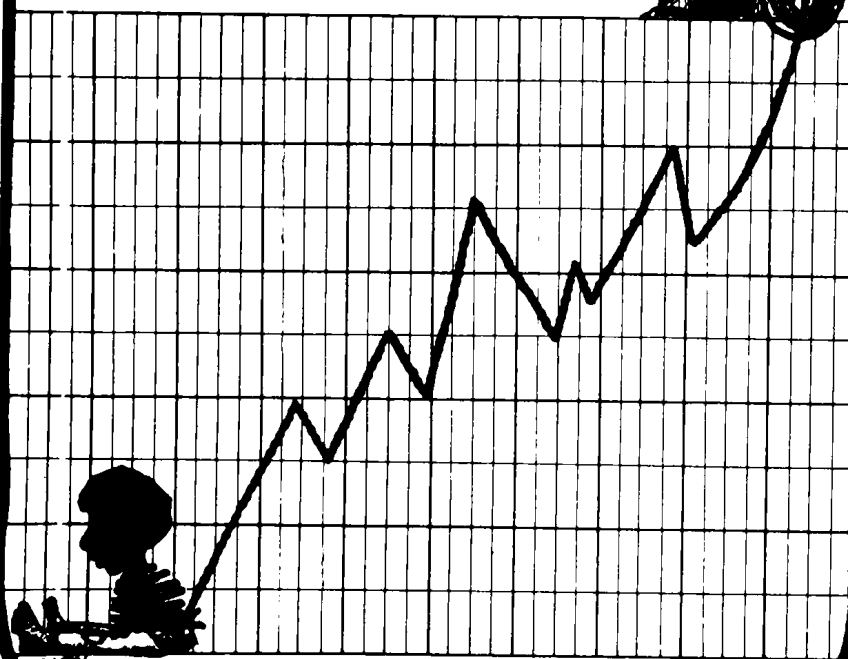
TOP: Making cast iron by "indigenous method;" Chinese worker pours molten iron.
Credit: INS
SEE STORY PAGE 9

Bottom Right: Asbestos Inspector
Credit: INS
SEE STORY PAGE 5

SEE STORY PAGE 7
Bottom Left: Four Puerto Ricans who raided the House of Representatives on March 1, 1954. Left to right they are: Rafael Cancel Miranda, Andres Figueroa Cordero, Lolita Lebron, and Irving Flores. CREDIT: El Comite/INS



1. the gap between rich and poor nations is widening



2. aid is not charity



TOP RIGHT:
African Miner
CREDIT: Sechaba/ LNS

TOP MIDDLE:
"Four It All In"
Credit: Oliphant / LNS

TOP LEFT:
Don Pedro Albizu Campos
SEE STORY IN THIS PACKET
CREDIT: J.P. Allicea/LNS

MIDDLE RIGHT:
Crunch Comix
CREDIT: James Beoddy/Columbus Free Press/LNS

BOTTOM:
Imperialistic Control
CREDIT: Prensa Latina/LNS